

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 5 1. A router, comprising a processor for routing a packet on
a selected one of a plurality of routes, wherein the plurality
of routes include a policy-based route determined in accordance
with a dynamic routing protocol.
- 10 2. The router according to claim 1 wherein the plurality of
routes further comprises a destination-based route determined
in accordance with a dynamic routing protocol.
- 15 3. The router according to claim 1 wherein the policy-based
route is modified in accordance with the dynamic routing
protocol upon detecting a network state change.
- 20 4. A router including a processor for routing a packet on a
selected one of a plurality of routes, characterized in that the
plurality of routes are determined in accordance with a dynamic
routing protocol and in that the route selection is made in
accordance with the result of a comparison of a plurality of
traffic parameters in the packet with a predetermined traffic
25 profile.
- 25 5. The router according to claim 4 wherein the plurality of
traffic parameters comprises a source address and a destination
address.
- 30 30 6. The router according to claim 5 further comprising a source
address look-up table having stored source address and an
address of a related Internet service provider and wherein the
35 route selection is made in accordance with the result of a

comparison of source address in the packet with stored source address in the source address look-up table.

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7. The router according to claim 6 wherein the source address look-up table comprises a hardware look-up table.

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8. The router according to claim 5 further comprising a destination address look-up table having stored destination addresses and wherein the route selection is made in accordance with the result of a comparison of destination address in the packet with the stored destination address in the destination address look-up table.

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9. The router according to claim 6 wherein the destination address look-up table comprises a hardware look-up table.

10. A method of routing signals in a communication network, comprising the steps of:

determining a destination in accordance with a source identifier in a received signal; and

forwarding said signal to said destination in accordance with a dynamic routing protocol.

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11. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of determining a destination in accordance with a source identifier in a received signal comprises determining a destination in accordance with source address of said received signal.

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12. The method of claim 10 further comprising storing an ISP for one or more source identifiers, and wherein the destination may be determined in accordance with said stored ISPs.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of forwarding the
received signal to said destination in accordance with a dynamic
5 routing protocol comprises forwarding said received signal in
accordance with an exterior gateway protocol.

14. A method of routing signals in a communication network,
comprising the steps of:

10 comparing destination address of a received signal to one
or more known destination addresses;

15 determining a destination for said received signal in
accordance with a source identifier in said received signal when
the destination address of said received signal does not match
any one of said known destination addresses; and

determining route for said received signal in accordance
with a dynamic routing protocol.

20 15. The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of
storing known destination addresses in a destination address
look-up table.

25 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the step of storing known
destination addresses in a destination address look-up table
comprises storing known destination addresses in a hardware
look-up table.

30 17. The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of
storing an ISP for one or more source identifiers in a source
address look-up table, and wherein the destination may be
determined in accordance with said stored ISPs.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the step of storing ISPs in
a source address look-up table comprises storing ISPs in a
5 hardware look-up table.

19. The method of claim 14 wherein the step of determining
route for said received signal in accordance with a dynamic
routing protocol comprises determining route for received signal
10 in accordance with an exterior gateway protocol.

15 20. The method of claim 14 wherein the step of determining a
destination for said received signal in accordance with a source
identifier in said received signal comprises determining a
destination for said received signal in accordance with source
address of said received signal.
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